

Irish News

CORK.—An Unpopular Scheme

Speaking at a distribution of prizes at the Christian Brothers' Schools, Cork, the Bishop of Cork said there would be no end of trouble if anyone undertook to secularise the schools.

The Mayor Honored

His Holiness the Pope has granted the Cross 'pro Ecclesia et Pontifice' to the Lord Mayor of Cork in attestation of approval of devotion and fidelity shown to the Church and its Supreme Head.

DONEGAL.—Value of Home Industries

The fact that emigration from County Donegal is below the average should offer an encouragement to those who are concerned about the other Irish counties. It may be added as an interesting and peculiar fact that it is in the most barren and desolate districts of that county that the population is maintained. In fact, his Lordship the Bishop of Raphoe, in 1898, was heard to boast that in the Rosses the population was increasing. It is partly owing to the amount of home industry carried on in the cottages that this is so.

DUBLIN.—A New Weekly Paper

It is stated that a new weekly journal will shortly be published in Dublin. Its programme will be on the lines of Mr. William O'Brien's conciliation policy, and it will be run by a company of which Mr. O'Brien, M.P., will be the most prominent member.

University Education

Before leaving for Rome the Most Rev. Dr. Healy presided at the opening of the medical session in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital. Speaking on the University Question, he said not only had the existing system of university education in Ireland been condemned by all statesmen who had undertaken to govern Ireland for the last thirty or forty years; not only had it been condemned by a Royal Commission—it had been effectually condemned by the Senate of the Royal University. It was deplorable and shameful that in face of facts known to the whole world, the Government should leave the matter in statu quo.

Home Rule

At a complimentary banquet to Mr. John O'Callaghan, Hon. secretary of the United Irish League of America, given in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, who proposed the toast of the Irish race, said the tide of the young blood of Ireland flows across the ocean and stop that tide they could not until Ireland obtained Home Rule. The industries of Ireland languished and revive they could not, except under the magic touch of Irish National Government. They were taxed to an enormous extent to keep up myriads of placemen, and placemen would keep their places until they had native government.

KERRY.—Killarney Lace

A gold medal has been awarded to the Convent of Mercy, Killarney, for the lace exhibited at St. Louis Exhibition.

KILKENNY.—Appointed Bishop

Very Rev. James Davis, Vicar-General of the diocese of Davenport, Iowa, U.S.A., has been selected by Pope Pius X. to be Coadjutor-Bishop to the Right Rev. Henry Cosgrove, Bishop of the same diocese. The new Bishop was born in November, 1852, near the village of Knocktopher, County Kilkenny. That his parents were devoted and exemplary Catholics is proven by the remarkable record of their children in entering the religious life. The eldest brother, Thomas, whose death occurred on October 4 of last year, entered the Order of Calced Carmelites, in which he rose to the rank of Provincial in Ireland. Another brother, Richard, is now an esteemed priest of the Louisville, Ky., diocese. Three sisters are in the religious life, one, Madame St. Basile, being Superior of the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Sag Harbor, Long Island; another, Madame St. Sebastian, is a member of the same Order in France, and a third is Superior of the Immaculate Heart Academy at Newport, Ky. He who has now been raised to the purple studied in the College of Mount Carmel at Knocktopher and at St. Patrick's College, Carlow. In June, 1903, the Bishop-elect celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination.

LIMERICK.—Death of a well-known Athlete

Mr. Spenser Lyons, Croom, a well known member of the Gaelic Athletic Association, died suddenly about

the middle of November. The deceased was a nephew of the late Dr. Lyons, of Dublin, and grandson of the late Sir William Lyons, of Cork.

A Memorial

A meeting was held at Emly with the object of considering the means of perpetuating the memory of the late Father Alexis Quinlan, of the Cistercian Order, Mount Melleray. The original idea of the promoters was to confine it to the immediate friends of the deceased monk, but the desire of the people to share in the proposed tribute was so strongly manifested that the friends felt it incumbent on them to yield to this wish and allow it to take a public form.

The Last of a Noble Line

Sir Stephen Edward de Vere, Bart., died on November 10 at his residence at Foynes, County Limerick, in his 94th year. Deceased, who was at one time M.P. for Limerick, had published a translation of Horace. He was brother to Aubrey de Vere, the poet. Sir Stephen Edward de Vere, fourth baronet, was the second son (says the 'Times') of the elder Sir Aubrey de Vere (author of 'Mary Tudor'), and brother of the younger Aubrey de Vere, the tender Catholic poet, whose life has lately been written by Mr. Wilfrid Ward. From that book it is possible to glean a few interesting facts about the quiet and retiring life of Sir Stephen, between whom and his brother there existed to the end the very closest affection. Their different characters were illustrated by the ways in which they were converted to the Catholic Church—for both were brought up as Protestants. While Aubrey reached Catholicism through the philosophy of Coleridge, the writings of Newman and the other Tractarians, and the subtle influences of the city of Rome itself, Stephen joined the Church from simple admiration of the religion of the Irish peasantry, and from a desire to be in harmony with them. His intense feeling for the people among whom his lot was cast was the most notable and the most fruitful element of his character. It gave him the remarkable and unique influence which he possessed, till the time of the Land League troubles, with all classes in County Limerick. While in the Sunday services near his island home in the Shannon he worshipped with the people as one of themselves, he was the most respected and the most often consulted of country gentlemen, the Nestor of local government, and the invariable foreman of the grand jury. For a few years, 1854-59, he sat in Parliament for the County of Limerick as a Liberal. He had also something, but not much, of his father's and brother's turn for literature. He wrote various pamphlets, and a few years ago published a verse translation of the Odes of Horace, of which it may fairly be said that if it was inferior to Conington's it was not much worse than Mr. Gladstone's. His writings showed him as he was—an excellent man and citizen, tender-hearted, but no sentimentalist. Sir Stephen de Vere, like his brother Aubrey, was unmarried, and by his death the baronetcy becomes extinct.

LOUTH.—Freedom of Drogheda

Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P., was recently presented with the freedom of the borough of Drogheda, and, in reply, delivered a speech dealing with the condition of the Irish Party.

TIPPERARY.—Prohibitive Transit Rates

At a meeting of the South Tipperary County Agricultural and Technical Committee, Father Dunne, of Cashel, produced a return relating to transit facilities and charges as they affected the district. These figures showed that eggs from Fethard to London cost 47s per ton at owner's risk, and at the ordinary rate, 65s, and that butter at owner's risk was 35s per ton, and at the ordinary rate 47s per ton. The rate from all the Baltic ports to London, Father Dunne pointed out, 'was only £1 per ton for butter, and 22s 6d per ton for eggs; from Denmark the rate was 30s, and from Canada 15s per 40 cubic feet. Russian butter came through the Baltic ports at £1 per ton. The rates had been reduced since October from the Baltic ports to the £1 standard; from Denmark the rate was 25s. The rate for eggs via Charleville to Liverpool was 45s per ton, and from Tipperary 50s. These figures showed that their instructress and the committee were quite correct in what they wrote to the Department on the question of excessive Irish railway rates. How could they in Drangan or elsewhere in Tipperary compete for a place in the London butter markets with a transit rate of 47s 6d, when Russian butter had only to pay £1 from the Baltic ports to reach the same market, or try to sell eggs in London when they had to pay 65s per ton freight as compared with 22s 6d on eggs from the Baltic ports. Mr. Field, M.P., points out that in England some attempt has been made by the railway companies to meet the wants of their customers, but that no-

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